16. (Previously Amended) A computerized method for enabling a plurality of vendors to transmit inventory information to an exchange platform at differing rate intervals, comprising the steps of:

creating an exchange platform provided at a location removed from a buyer and the vendors;

transmitting inventory information from a first group of vendors denoted as search time participants at a first interval rate to said exchange platform;

transmitting inventory information from a second group of vendors denoted as order time participants at a second interval rate more frequent than said first interval rate to said exchange platform;

transmitting inventory information from a third group of vendors denoted as real time participants at a third interval rate more frequent than said second interval rate to said exchange platform; and

having the buyer periodically review the inventory information transmitted from said first, second and third group of vendors, allowing said buyer the opportunity to view the inventory information transmitted to said exchange platform at said first interval rate, said second interval rate and said third interval rate.

17. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 16, further including the step of having the buyer order an item from the inventory information.

18. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 17, further including the step of providing a viewing screen for each of the vendors, allowing the vendors to review the orders of a buyer.

19. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 18, further including the step of communicating a target price for an inventory item to the vendors.

20. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 16, further including the step of transmitting inventory information to said exchange platform using a batch file.

21. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 17, further including the step of automatically informing a vendor when a buyer places an order.

22. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 21, further including the step of approving the order during a predetermined period of time to prevent the order from being rejected.

23. (New) A computerized method for transmitting inventory information between a plurality of vendors and at least one buyer, comprising the steps of:

creating an exchange platform provided at a location removed from the buyer and the vendors;

transmitting first inventory information from a first group of vendors denoted as search time participants to said exchange platform at first discrete time intervals during a twenty-four hour period of time;

transmitting second inventory information from a second group of vendors denoted as order time participants to said exchange platform polling said second group of vendors at second discrete time intervals during said twenty-four hour period of time, the number of said first discrete time intervals being less than said second discrete time intervals, resulting in the receipt of said second inventory information at said exchange platform more frequently than the receipt of said first

inventory information at said exchange platform, said second
inventory information including a purchase price;

transmitting third inventory information from a
third group of vendors denoted as real time participants to said
exchange platform at third discrete time intervals during said
twenty-four hour period of time, the number of third discrete
time intervals being greater than said second discrete time
intervals, resulting in the receipt of said third inventory
information at said exchange platform more frequently than the
receipt of said second inventory information at said exchange
platform;

periodically reviewing said first, second and
third inventory information by the buyer through said exchange
platform;

transmitting a first purchase order from the buyer
directly to said search time participants without sending said
first purchase order to said exchange platform;

providing said exchange platform with an order
time approval program allowing the buyer to communicate with said
order time participants through said exchange platform;

transmitting a second purchase order from the
buyer to said order time approval program at said exchange
platform, said exchange platform transmitting said second
purchase order to one of said order time participants;

transmitting a first communication from one of
said order time participants to the buyer through said exchange
platform responsive to said second purchase order, said first
communication rejecting or approving said second purchase order;

transmitting a third purchase order from the buyer
to one of said real time participants through said exchange
platform;

transmitting a second communication from one of
said real time participants to the buyer through said exchange
platform; said second communication sent to the buyer in real
time indicating whether said third purchase order was rejected
or approved; and

the buyer purchasing inventory from one of the vendors when one of said purchase orders is approved by one of the vendors.

24. (New) The method in accordance with claim 23, wherein said first inventory information is sent to said exchange platform use batch file.

25. (New) The method in accordance with claim 24, wherein said batch file is sent to said exchange platform once a day.

26. (New) The method in accordance with claim 23, wherein said second inventory information is sent to said exchange platform at a frequency not to exceed every five minutes.

27. (New) The method in accordance with claim 23, wherein said third inventory information is sent to said exchange platform in real time at every instance there is a change in said inventory information.

28. (New) The method in accordance with claim 23, wherein the buyer transmits to said order time approval program a target price for at least one item in said second inventory information, not equal to the asking price of said item.

29. (New) The method in accordance with claim 28, wherein at least one of said order time participant transmits to the buyer a rejection or approval of said target price.